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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Commodity Stabilization Service

1958 WHEAT QUOTAS

#335
Wheat marketing quotas have been proclaimed for the 1958 crop, as required by law under the present supply situation.

In a national referendum June 20, wheat growers themselves will make the final decision on whether the quotas will be in effect next year. At least two-thirds of those who vote must favor quotas if they are to be in operation.

The basic choices on which farmers will be voting are as follows:

If quotas are approved—

- All farmers in commercial wheat States with more than 15 acres of wheat will be subject to quotas.
- Any "excess" wheat will be subject to quota penalties.
- Price support at a national average of \$1.78 a bushel will be available to producers who do not exceed their farm acreage allotments.

If quotas are not approved—

- There will be no quotas or quota penalties.
- Acreage allotments will remain in effect.
- Price support will be available at 50 percent of parity for producers who comply with their farm wheat allotments. (Fifty percent of parity applicable to the 1958 Crop is estimated to be \$1.18 a bushel.)

The referendum vote is on quotas, not allotments. The law requires that allotments be in effect every year, unless suspended because of emergency conditions. There will be wheat acreage allotments for 1958, therefore, even if quotas are disapproved.

Who Can Vote

All persons are eligible to vote in the June 20 quota referendum who will share in the 1958 wheat crop from a farm in the commercial wheat area on which the wheat acreage to be harvested, plus any acreage to be placed in the wheat Acreage Reserve, will be more than 15 acres. The commercial wheat area includes those States in which farm wheat allotments are established.

The Wheat Supply Situation

The total wheat supply for the marketing year beginning July 1, 1957, is estimated at more than 1 billion 800 million bushels. This is 56 percent above the "normal" supply. Whenever the estimated supply is 20 percent or more above the normal level, the law requires that a referendum must be held on marketing quotas. This is the fifth consecutive year in which the supply situation has called for a quota vote.

1958-Crop Price Support

The law provides for wheat price support at a level between 75 and 90 percent of parity, when marketing quotas are in effect. This support is available for producers who comply with their farm acreage allotments.

The controlling legislation provides for variable price supports, on the basis of the estimated supply of wheat for the marketing year. The larger the supply, the lower the support—within the 75 to 90 percent of parity range. When the net supply is more than 30 percent above the "normal" supply, price support at 75 percent of parity is indicated by the law. The estimated actual net supply for the marketing year beginning July 1, 1958, is nearly 42 percent above the normal level.

The average support rate for 1958-crop wheat in the commercial area, if quotas are approved, has been set at \$1.78 a bushel—75 percent of the estimated transitional parity for that year.

If marketing quotas are disapproved, the 1958 support level available to growers who comply with their farm wheat acreage allotments will be at 50 percent of parity.

For More Information

County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Offices and county or community ASC Committeemen can furnish additional information on local voting places, hours of voting, eligibility to vote, and other program details.

Farmers Themselves Will Make The Quota Decision

June 20 Is The Voting Day